

PIARIST JOURNAL 3

Weekend was uneventful. Sunday I spent the afternoon driving the highways and byways. I am intrigued by the small cemeteries that dot the landscape. I have been able to drive up to a couple to read the dates of the deceased, but for the most part, no trespassing signs will meet you at the entrance of the narrow road which leads to these family tributes. Some of the older headstones date back to the mid-late 1800's, still there are some that are dates in the 1900's and 2000. I took pictures, often having to zoom in, when I could, but even my zoom lense could not read the date or get a clear picture of those high on mountain ridges. I wondered if the location was an attempt to be closer to God.

Monday 26th

The morning was spent unpacking and size sorting 600 t-shirts and 150 hoodies. The Outreach can give thanks to a printing company for the treasure. These looked to be overruns or seconds, still in very good condition. I believe the company supplied every Irish family and or pub across the nation...there was a mega, a bizillion amount of GREEN tees.

I did a double take driving past a cemetery thinking, "that can't be what I thought it was". But I am sure, next to positive, that along the cemetery drive lay a bright shiny silver casket. Well, this signaled to me that it was time to investigate. So that is what I did. Only to assure myself that Jane/Joe Doe was properly laid to rest. The shiny silver object turned out to be a vault.

Unlike the burial vaults we are accustomed to, the top was the bottom and the bottom was the top. Ok, you don't understand...the vault looked like a gigantic silver, stainless steel butter dish. Sorry, I don't know how else to describe it. And it looked to me that the grave-site was dug the good ole fashioned way, manpower and sweat. I thought I should return with two beers to offer some relief to the manpower. Pretty much it folks. Looks like rain is moving into the area. God bless! Praying for those affected by the flood.

Tuesday 27th

Drove through heavy fog to where we are sheet-rock. It was time to tape and mud. Yup, another thing to check off my bucket list. Mike asked me, "*You ever mud before?*" Thinking mud-pies as a kid didn't count I said no! After I got the finer details of mudding, with mud and spatula in hand I set my sights to the task before me. Mike asked me again if I ever mudded, he said I was doing a good job. Mike wasn't feeling well, something was wrong. He said he barely got two hours of sleep because of the dog, but didn't know if that was it. I sure it had something to do with it. He looked to be falling asleep standing up. Justin and I were a bit concerned watching him eat his lunch. A couple of times we thought he was going to fall off the bucket he was sitting on. Ater lunch we continued to mud. My t-shirt looked like a flock of pigeons flew over me and left their markings. Soon it was time to pack up things and head back to the school. Justin drives one of the small buses delivering students back home. Tomorrow it will be more of the same. We should finish first layer. I needed to make a stop on the way back to the house. Noticing the dried mud on my clothes, a lady asked if I was a handy mud. I responded , "no only today." She then said she was looking for a handyman. Later I thought I should have asked, what the pay was! God bless!

Wednesday 28th

Cool and foggy morning. I need a chiropractor. 9:30 back at the house. I worked alone today, not sure what happened to Mike and Justin. I taped and mudded on a section where I left off on Tuesday. Decided to quit at noon and went for lunch. Afternoon the guys didn't show up so I decided I would venture into new territory. The small towns begin to look all the same. God Bless.

Thursday 29th

Cool and very wet. Rained for most of the day. Full crew at the house today. Hopefully we will get the job done. Sanded what was done previous and the back to work on what needed mud. Yup, my t-shirt looked like pigeon markings. I'm sure a professional can get the job done and still have a clean shirt at the end of a day, need to ask Ryan. We worked through, not stopping for lunch and finished the first coat. WAAHOO! Packed up and headed back to the school. I still need a chiropractor! God Bless.

Friday 30th

Well one month down, two to go. Cool and rainy today. At the school today to catch up on the Piarist Journal. The Outreach received about 20 boxes yesterday from Indiana, various items of clothing and shoes. More to unpack. Running out of room not sure where its all going to go. The plan is to have a yard sale some time in October. Five dollars will get you all you can stuff into 3 plastic grocery bags. And like any yard sale the prices go down as the end of the day approaches. Not sure what the weekend will bring. I think the weather is going to stay cool. Good napping weather. God Bless.